

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus comprising:  
a reading unit which reads a code given to a commodity by using at least one beam of the plurality of beams; and  
a frequent beam specifying unit which specifies the most frequently used beam of the plurality of beams owing to the personal features of the operator in the operation for reading the code,  
wherein said reading unit reads the code by using the specified beam preferentially.
2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a writing unit which writes the information of the beam specified in a portable recording medium corresponding to the operator; and a setting reading unit which reads the information of the beam from said portable recording medium before operation,  
wherein said reading unit reads the code by using the beam preferentially on the basis of the information of the read beam.
3. The apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising an authentication unit which checks authentication of the operator,  
wherein said writing unit performs writing and said reading unit performs reading with the result of authentication by said authenticating unit as a trigger.
4. A method of reading a code given to a commodity, comprising the operations of:

reading a code given to a commodity by using at least one beam of the plurality of beams; and

specifying the most frequently used beam of the plurality of beams owing to the personal features of the operator in the operation for reading the code,

wherein the code is read in the reading step by using the specified beam preferentially.